

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph on page 12, lines 6-10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A particularly advantageous preparation method according to the invention is a method for preparing nucleotide sequences as defined above, characterized in that the pair of primers used is: (GAR TGY GGN CCN TTR CAR CG (SEQ ID NO: 21); CCA NGC NTC YTT RTC RAA GCA (SEQ ID NO: 28)) or (GAR TGY GGN CCN TTR CAR CG (SEQ ID NO: 21); CTC CTC TCC TCT CCT CTT CCT (SEQ ID NO: 22)), R, Y and N being as defined above, --

Please replace the paragraph on page 13, lines 5-8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A particularly advantageous preparation method according to the invention is a method for preparing nucleotide sequences as defined above, characterized in that the pair of primers used is the following: (AN TGY GGN CCN CTN CAR CG (SEQ ID NO: 29); CCA NGC NTC YTT RTC RAA GCA (SEQ ID NO: 28)), N, Y and R being as defined above, --

Please replace the paragraph on page 13, lines 29-32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A particularly advantageous preparation method according to the invention is a method for preparing nucleotide sequences as defined above, characterized in that the pair of primers used is the following: (TGY GGN ATH CTN

CAR CG (SEQ ID NO: 23); CTC CTC TCC TCT CCT CTT CCT (SEQ ID NO: 22)), N, Y and R being as defined above, --

Please replace the paragraph on page 14, lines 18-22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A particularly advantageous preparation method according to the invention is a method for preparing nucleotide sequences as defined above, characterized in that the pair of primers used is: (AAR GTI AAR CAN AAC TGG (SEQ ID NO: 24); CCA NGC NCC DAT RTC RAA (SEQ ID NO: 30)) or (AAR GTI AAR CAN AAC TGG (SEQ ID NO: 24); CTC CTC TCC TCT CCT CTT CCT (SEQ ID NO: 22)), R, I, N and D being as defined above, --

Please replace the paragraph on page 15, lines 17-21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A particularly advantageous preparation method according to the invention is a method for preparing nucleotide sequences as defined above, characterized in that the pair of primers used is the following: (TGY TGY AGY ATH GAR GAY CG (SEQ ID NO: 25); CA NGC NYC RCT RTT RAA RCA (SEQ ID NO: 31)) or (TGY TGY AGY ATH GAR GAY CG (SEQ ID NO: 25); CTC CTC TCC TCT CCT CTT CCT (SEQ ID NO: 22)), Y, H, R and N being as defined above, --

Please replace the paragraph on page 16, lines 17-20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A particularly advantageous preparation method according to the invention is a method for preparing

nucleotide sequences as defined above, characterized in that the pair of primers used is the following: (AAR GTN ATH TTY GGN AGR GA (SEQ ID NO: 26); CTC CTC TCC TCT CCT CTT CCT (SEQ ID NO: 22)), R, H, N and Y being as defined above, --

Please replace the paragraph on page 17, lines 5-8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- A particularly advantageous preparation method according to the invention is a method for preparing nucleotide sequences as defined above, characterized in that the pair of primers used is the following: (GAR CAY CAR TGY GGN GGN GA (SEQ ID NO: 27), CTC CTC TCC TCT CCT CTT CCT (SEQ ID NO: 22)), R, N and Y being as defined above, --